

## AN ANALYSIS OF WORD FORMATION ENCOUNTERED IN MEDICAL TERMS IN *THE JAKARTA POST'S* ARTICLES

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this research was to find out the types of word formation in medical terms in *The Jakarta Post's* health articles. This research was designed as a descriptive qualitative research. The population of this research was all medical terms in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper. The sample of this research was medical terms found in seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper which published from June until December 2016. Documentation was used as main instrument in this research. There were 10 types of word formation by Yule (2010). The result of this study showed, there are 55 data of derivation, 20 data of compounding, 16 data of borrowing, 11 data of acronym, 2 data of clipping, and one data of backformation. It can be concluded, there are six types of word formation were found in seven health articles. Further, there is no coinage, blending, conversion, and multiple processes were found in medical terms in seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post's* newspapers.

**sKeywords:** *Word Formation, Medical Terms*

### INTRODUCTION

People and communication are two words that cannot be separated. As long as human live, they need to communicate to each others. They communicate for different purpose. It can be said, people communicate each other to fulfill their needs. To communicate, human beings need "a tool" to deliver their ideas, it is known as language. According to Wibowo (2001), language is a system of symbols that are meaningful and articulate sound (generated by said tool) which arbitrary and conventional, which is used as a

means of communicating by group of human being to give birth to feeling and thoughts. In short, language is a tool to interact with other people to convey or express their needs, feelings, and thoughts.

Language cannot be separated with the term of linguistics. Lyons (1968) defines linguistics as the scientific study of language by means of controlled and empirically verifiable observations with reference to some general theory of language structure. In other words,

linguistics is a scientific study of language and its structure, its meaning, and its context. Linguistics are divided into some subfield, they are phonology which studies of speech sounds, syntax which studies of sentences, semantics which studies of meaning, pragmatics which studies of language use, and morphology which studies of internal structures of words.

Morphology is a branch of linguistics. Morphology refers to the study that deals with internal structure of the words in a language. According to Gleason (1970), morphology is the description of the more intimate combination of morpheme, roughly what are familiarly called "words". A morpheme means the smallest grammatical unit that cannot be separated into smaller meaningful parts. Morphemes can be divided into two; they are free morpheme and bound morpheme. Free morphemes are independent words, whereas bound morphemes are dependant words that need other morphemes to create meaningful words. Some of the morphemes combine with other morphemes to form new words in a language. This process is called word formation.

Word formation is one of the concerns in morphology field, which discusses about the ways new words are created in the language. It means most of the languages have the ways or the processes in create words, including English. In English, there are some theories about types of word formation process by the linguists.

As the impact of globalization era in all over the world, most of the countries use English, including Indonesia. English as a language is not only used as speaking language, but also in written. Written language is representation of spoken language by using instruments and

materials, such as pen, paper, and computer. Written language can be found in many kinds of mass media, for example, magazines, and newspapers.

In Indonesia, newspaper is kind of mass media which is popular for common people. According to *Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary*, newspaper is a paper that is printed and distributed usually daily or weekly that contains news, articles of opinions, features, and advertising. Almost everyone reads newspaper to get information. Newspaper has many functions for human beings. It can give a lot of information of current issues around the world, such as in the field of politics, economic, education, sports, entertainment, technology and also health. In Indonesia, many newspapers have been publishing, both national and region. One of popular newspapers in Indonesia is *The Jakarta Post*.

*The Jakarta Post* is the daily newspaper that uses English as language to communicate to the reader. This newspaper is owned by PT. Media Tenggara (Wikipedia). *The Jakarta Post* has won several awards and been described as being "Indonesia leading English language daily", because This newspaper the only one that use full English which publish every day. The award proves that *The Jakarta Post* is a good authentic material for doing analysis study, because the articles have accurate information. Beside of that, the targets of the readers are well-educated people from middle until advanced level who understands English.

The newspaper contains a lot of useful information for the readers, both current events in Indonesia and also around the world. It is written in the form of articles, and every article has different topics to discuss. One of the topics is about health

that related to medical field. Those articles usually contain many special terms, known as medical terms. According to *Wikipedia* (2010), medical terminology is language used to precisely describe the human body including its components, processes, conditions affecting it, and procedures performed upon in the field of medicine. From the definition, medical terms are the words or terms which make up the field of medicine.

In reading the articles, the researcher found that health articles have own language that differ from language that common people use in ordinary life. Most of medical terms come from *Greek* and *Latin* language, and some of them use English or the joining or combining between *Latin* or *Greek* language and English. It means, there are rules or ways that are applied in forming the terms.

One of the example was found, not all the terms use single word or free morpheme, but most of terms are combined with other word or morpheme to form new words, such as in the term one of medical terms in the health article is “*CT scan*”. Most of people commonly know the word “*CT scan*” as a medical check using X-rays that produce “image” inside human body, without knowing the exactly meaning of the word and the process that involved in forming the word. In morphology, especially in the study of word formation, there is a process of word formation is involved in that term. Actually, the word “*CT*” means a *Computer Tomography*. This forming process is called acronym. Yule (2010) defines, acronyms are new words formed from the initial letters of a set of other words. These rules or ways are interesting to be investigated as a study, because every word has their own process that can be described.

Toward this phenomenon, Yule (2010) has proposed ten types of word formation. Those are coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, backformation, conversion, acronym, derivation and multiple processes. Those types of word formation would lead the researcher to know the types of word formation that is used in medical terms, particularly in the health articles. These ten types of word formation have their definitions which different one and other. Coinage is a process of creating new term from trades names or commercial product that become general terms, for example *Kleenex* and *aspirin*. Borrowing is the process of actually borrowing word from foreign language, such as *sofa* from *Arabic*. Compounding is a joining of two words to produce a single form, for example *fingerprint* and *wallpaper*. Blending is the combination of two separate form by taking only the beginning of one word and joining it to the end of other words, for example *brunch* (*breakfast/lunch*). Clipping occurs when a word of more than syllable (*influenza*) is reducing to shorter form (*flu*). Backformation is reducing process from a word of one type (usually a noun) to form word another type (usually a verb), for example the noun *television* came first before the verb *televise*. While, conversion is changing the function of a word without any reduction, for example the word *chair* and *butter*. Acronym defines, new words formed from initial letters of a set of other words, such *CD* (*Compact Disk*), and *VCR* (*Video Cassette Recorder*). Derivation is a process when a word is created where its meaning and its category is distinct from its base by adding affixes, such as *unhappy* or *joyful*. The last type is multiple process; when a word is possible to trace operation more than one processes at work in

particular word, for example the word “snowballed” there are two word formation are involved. First is compounding (snow + ball) and conversion (snowballed)

Due to the fact, the analysis of word formation in medical terms may have significant influence for Department English student, especially linguistic (morphology) students and also medical student. This study is interested to be investigated, so medical terms is considered as appropriate sample for this study entitled “An Analysis of Word formation Encountered in Medical Terms in *The Jakarta Post’s* Articles”. The aims of this study are to find out the types of medical terms in medical term in health articles and to explain how the medical terms are classified.

## METHOD

This study was designed as descriptive qualitative research, specifically descriptive analysis study. According to Meleong (2009), the analysis in qualitative research, concern in understanding the result of found data rather than calculate the result of found data.

According to Arikunto (2002), population is a total subject of the research Population of this study was all medical terms in *The Jakarta Post* newspapers.. The samples in this research was medical terms found in seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspapers published from June until December 2016. As Waito (1992) states, sample is a part of population taken to be representative of the population and it is actually the real data source of the study .

The instrument for collecting the data in this study was documentation According to Arikunto (2006), documentation method is a method

where the researcher investigates the written things such as books, magazines, documents, diaries, etc. In this study, the document were seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper from different editions (published from June until December 2016), which has been observed by researcher to identify the types of word formations of medical terms that is used According to Yule (2010). The data also used classification form and data cards as the supporting instruments.

In this study, technique of collecting data used some steps. First, the researcher adopted health articles from *The Jakarta Post* newspapers. Second, the researcher read the articles. Then, the researcher found out medical terms in the articles. After, the researcher got the data; the researcher put the data into classification form. After collecting the data, the next step was analyzing. The data in this research were analyzed by using descriptive analysis technique. In analyzing the data, this research took several steps. First was wrote down the description of the data (medical terms) on data card. Data cards use to identify the data from the seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper based on each types of word formation. After the data description was written on data card, the researcher analyzed how the word formation process of each medical term classified by using Yule’s theory (2010) and morphology concept.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1. Total of the Data**

N o	Types of word formation	Medical Terms	To tal
	Coinage	-	-
	Borrowing	1. Diagnosis 2. Therapeutic 3. Medication	16

		4. Alcohol 5. Diabetes 6. Cough 7. Dose 8. Medicines 9. Influenza 10. Glucose 11. Supplement 12. Cancer 13. Cramps 14. Cells 15. Tumor 16. Lymph	
	<b>Compounding</b>	17. Uric-acid 18. Lithotripsy 19. Welfare 20. Appendectomy 21. Healthcare 22. Oxygen 23. Thrombolysis 24. Physiotherapy 25. Artery-wall 26. Cardiocerebrovascular 27. Antibiotic-resistant 28. Carbohydrates 29. Radiotherapy 30. Colorectal 31. Biopsy 32. Laparoscopy 33. Gastroscopy 34. Colonoscopy 35. Endoscopy 36. Chemotherapy	<b>20</b>
	<b>Blending</b>	-	-
	<b>Clipping</b>	37. Flu 38. Carbs	<b>2</b>
	<b>Backformation</b>	39. Diagnosed	<b>1</b>
	<b>Conversion</b>	-	-
	<b>Acronym</b>	40. ESWL 41. BCSL 42. ICU 43. FAST 44. ER 45. JCI 46. WHO 47. GI 48. CT scan 49. MRI scan 50. PET scan	<b>11</b>
	<b>Derivation</b>	51. Incisions 52. Treatment 53. Non-surgical 54. Lithotripter 55. Urology	<b>55</b>

		56. Urinary 57. Extracorporeal 58. Complication 59. Anesthesia 60. Analgesia 61. Surgical 62. Specialist 63. Ultrasound 64. Crystallization 65. Perspiration 66. Illnesses 67. Operation 68. Coronary 69. Laboratory 70. Hypertension 71. Neurologist 72. Neurological 73. Blockage 74. Intravenously 75. Emergency 76. Thrombolytic 77. Physician 78. Recurrence 79. Indication 80. Contraindication 81. Extracranial 82. Intracranial 83. Non-invasive 84. Smokers 85. Alcoholics 86. Antimicrobial 87. Prescribe 88. Prescription 89. Prevention 90. Chemicals 91. Infection 92. Blindness 93. Diabetic 94. Nutritional 95. Insulin 96. Supplementation 97. Digestive 98. Internist 99. Screening 100. Detection 101. Irritation 102. Abdominal 103. Malignant 104. Diagnostic 105. Metastasized	
	<b>Multiple Process</b>	-	-
<b>Total:</b>			<b>105</b>

## Discussion

According to Yule (2010), there are ten types of word formation; they are coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, conversion, backformation, clipping, acronym, derivation, and multiple process.

From the data analysis of the seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspapers, there was 105 data found; 55 derivations, 20 compounding, 16 borrowing, 11 acronyms, two clippings, and only one backformation.

There was 55 data that have been identified as derivation. It means most of medical terms encountered in Medical Terms in the seven health articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper use derivation process in building the terms. These parts contain at least three parts; they are root, prefix, and suffixes. As the theory from Stanfield *et al.*, (2007); they said that, there are three basic parts of medical terms; they are *prefixes*, *word roots*, and *suffixes*. The root brings the essential meaning of the word, while prefixes and suffixes are attached to the root to make the terms more specific or to modify the basic meaning.

The findings of the study showed that there are the process of changing the word classes, because the roots of these terms has been attached by prefixes or suffixes. Any kind of affixes that can change the word class is known as derivational morphemes. As Yule (2010) claims, derivational morpheme are used to make new words or to make of a different grammatical category from the stem. It is include suffix and prefix.

According to Rozelin (2012), there are nine types of word class in English. In this analysis there are eight of them. First, there are 17 data of derivation change the word class from verbs into nouns. Most of the category of word changes verbs into

nouns, because in the health articles describe actions or condition. It characterized by some kinds of suffixes, such as *-ion* in the term *indication*, *-ation* in *crystallization*, *-ence* in *recurrence*, *-er* in *smokers*, *-ing* in *screening*, and *-ment* in *treatment*. Second, there are 13 data change the word class from nouns into adjectives. It is characterized by some suffixes, such as *-al* in *surgical*, *-ic* in *diabetic*, *-ary* in *urinary*. Third, there are 5 data change the word class from adjectives into nouns. It is characterized by some suffixes, such as *-ist* in *internist*, and *-ness* in *blindness*. There are 2 data change the word clas from verbs into adjective. It is characterized by some suffixes, such as *-ive* in *digestive*, and *-ant* in *malignant*. Then, there are two data change the word class from nouns into verbs. It is characterized by some affixes, such as the prefix *pre-* in *prescribe*, and the suffix *-ize* in *metastasized*. The last is one data changes the word class from an adjective into an adverb that modify by affixes; a prefix *intra-* and a suffix *-ly* in *intravenously*.

Beside of that, there are some data do not change the word class, but they change the meaning of the root by some affixes. This finding showed, there are 16 data do not change the word class, they just transform the meaning. The kind of affixes that change the word class known as inflectional morphemes.

The second type found in medical terms is compounding. There are 20 data found that are identified as compound words. From 20 data, there are 19 data are identified as compound nouns. Compound noun often use in medical articles, especially these seven health articles, some of medical terms combine two word to produce a single terms to describe and explain the name of

treatments such as *endoscopy* and *laparoscopy*, the name of disease, such as *uric-acid*, and also the human's body parts such as *artery-wall*. It occurs because a single term perhaps does not enough to describe something; it needs other term to complete it.

The third type found in medical terms is borrowing. There are 16 data showed the borrowing process. From the data finding, it can be concluded that some of medical terms adopted from other language. In this case, most of medical terms adopted from *Greek* and *Latin*, such as in the term *diabetes* 'diabenein', *glucose* 'gleucose', *medicine* 'medicus'. And *cell* 'cella'. This phenomenon occurs because the scientific from *Greek* develop the head of knowledge, especially medical field. The impact of the development of medical field around the world, it makes some of medical terms also adopted from modern language. This study found there some medical terms adopted from modern language, such the term *influenza* is from *Italian* 'influenza', the term *cramp* from *Dutch* 'krampe', the term *alcohol* from *Arabic* 'al-kuhl', and the term *cough* from *German* 'keuchen'.

Another type of word formation found in medical terms in seven health articles is acronym. There are 11 data has been identified as acronym. The acronym words, especially in medical terms are used to compact the meaning; to make the meaning more solid, so it will be easy to remember, especially for common people. In this study some of acronym words used to describe a treatment to cure people by machine or modern technology, such as *CT scan* and *MRI scan*, to describe the important room in hospital, such as *ICU* (Intensive Care Unit), and *ER* (Emergency Room), and some of acronym words used to compact the

meaning of organizations, such as *WHO* (World Health Organization) and *JCI* (Joint Commission International).

The fifth type of word formation found in medical terms is clipping. There are only two clipping forms found, they are *flu* and *carbs*. Both of them sound familiar for people and they often use them for daily conversation. In the seven health articles, there are only two terms, because health articles in newspaper are written by using formal speech. It avoids miscomprehension for the readers. In linguistics, the clipping forms usually use in informal speech.

The last type found is backformation. There is only one datum of backformation; the term *diagnosed*. The term *diagnose* is back-formation from *diagnosis*. This process occurs when the word *diagnosis* came first into use, and then a verb *diagnose* is created from it.

Further, there is no coinage, blending, conversion, and multiple processes found in creating the medical terms in this research. It gives an assumption that most of the medical terms do not have those types of word formation. Another assumption is most of medical terms have derivation process in creating new terms. It can be proved the theory from Stanfield *et al.*, (2007). They said that, there are three basic parts of medical terms; they are prefixes, word roots, and suffixes. *Prefix* is the word or element attached to the beginning of a word root to modify the meaning, but not all of medical terms have a prefix, while *word root* is core part of the word that has core meaning of the *word root*. By adding prefixes or suffixes, the meaning of the word is changed. The last part is *suffix* which has a meaning as the word part or element attached to the end of the word root to modify its meaning.

Medical terms also can be divided into some functions of words. In medical field, the medical terms can be classified into sub classification, first is related to the disease, second is related to medicines, and the last id related to physical (body). The term related to diseases consist of 32 data, such as *hypertension, cancer, influenza, and cramp*. The term related to medicines consist of 31 data, such as *antibiotic-resistant, anesthesia, analgesia, and antimicrobial*. The last is the term related to physical (body) consist of 10 data, such as *extracranial, intracranial, artery-wall, and extracorporeal*. The data that is not including into these three sub types of medical terms is categorized as linguistic terms.

From this result, this study has similar finding to the a study conducted by Meisara (2004) which found most of medical terms in *New York Times's* magazines have derivation process in creating new terms. The other types of word formation found in Meisara's study were compounding, abbreviation, and acronym. This study also used supporting theory from Rozelin (2011) about the several types of word class in English that also used by Meisara (2014). This present findings found 38 data change the category of words and 16 data maintain the category of word, whereas Meisara (2014) found there were eight data change the word class and three data maintain the word class (from sample data).

Meanwhile, this present findings are different to the other study findings, including a study conducted by Ismiyah (2015). Although, this study use same theory of word formation by Yule, but there were some differences. This study found all of the types of word formation by Yule and it found borrowing mostly

used in forming business terms in *The Jakarta Post newspaper*. The other studies are conducted by Rustamaji (2015) and Hanif (2015) that also had different result to this finding. Both of these studies found compounding were mostly used in forming the word.

The result of several studies mentioned above could be different because the object of the studies is different each others. The other reason, in analyzing the data, the previous studies used different theories, especially the theory about the types of word formation.

### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

According to Yule (2010), there are ten types of word formation. They are coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, conversion, backformation, clipping, acronym, derivation, and multiple process. From the data analysis, there six types of word formation encountered in medical terms in seven heath articles in *The Jakarta Post newspaper*. They are compounding, borrowing, clipping, acronym, backformation, and derivation. Further, there is no coinage, blending, conversion, and multiple processes found in creating the medical terms in this research

From 105 data found, there are 55 data has been identified as derivation which means most of medical terms has derivation in building the terms. Derivation processes change the word classes. Most of them change the word class from a verb into a noun. It can be concluded that prefixes and suffixes are attached to the root can change the meaning of the word.

Then, it followed with other types; they are 20 data of compounding where most of them are compound nouns. There are 16 data of borrowing. Most of them



are adopted from *Greek* and *Latin*, while the rest is adopted from modern language, such as *Dutch*, *German*, and *Arabic*. There are 11 data of acronyms. Most of the acronym words are derived from English, such *ICU* and *WHO*. Then, there are two data of clipping; *flu* and *carbs*. Both of them are familiar for common people, not only in medical field. The last type is backformation. There is only one backformation, where the noun *diagnosis* is came first before the verb *diagnose*.

From data findings, there are three sub-classifications of medical terms. The most dominant type is medical terms related to medicine, such as *chemotherapy*, *colonoscopy*, *antibiotic*, *blindness*, *malignant* and *antimicrobial*. The second dominant is medical terms related to diseases, such as *hypertension*, *influenza*, *cough*, and *tumor*. The less dominant is medical terms related to physical (body), such as *intracranial*, *artery-wall*, and *abdominal*.

The analysis of word formation related to words, language, and human life. Since, language is abstract element; it always changes time to time. Every field related to words that have different ways in building the term, so it necessary to do further analysis about word formation to increase knowledge and understanding about language. Therefore, it is suggested to further researcher to analyze about word formation with different terms from other fields, such as in the field of economic, politic or law. The further studies also can use different theories to compare the result with these present findings.

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